

JSIS FACULTY MEETING Minutes

March 8, 2022

9:30 – 11:00am

Meeting Attendees: Mika Ahuvia, Marie Anchordoguy, David Bachman, Jeff Begun, Daniel Bessner, Sara Curran, Rebakah Daro Minarchek, Madeleine Dong, Leela Fernandes, Vanessa Freije, Kathie Friedman, Christoph Giebel, Radhika Govindrajan, Yong-Chool Ha, Liora Halperin, Judith Henchy, Alex Hollmann, Chris Jones, Hajin Jun, Sunila Kale, Resat Kasaba, Taso Lagos, Sabine Lang, Bill Lavelly, James Lin, Sarah Lohmann, Rick Lorenz, Celia Lowe, Tony Lucero, Mark Metzler, Stephen Meyers, Scott Montgomery, Matthew Mosca, Devin Naar, Christian Novetzke, Robert Pekkanen, Saadia Pekkanen, Noam Pianko, Scott Radnitz, Cabeiri Robinson, Sasha Senderovich, Kevin Swantek, Jim Wellman, Nathalie Williams, Shelly Wolf, Anand Yang, Glenny Young

Meeting Agenda

1. Announcements: DEI Committee event April 19
Walking tour with Dean Harris March 9 10:00AM Thomson Hall
Spring Quarter Faculty Meetings will be hybrid
Israel studies program - information and discussion:
<https://www.washington.edu/news/2022/02/28/uw-statement-on-recent-gift-return-status-of-israel-studies-program/>
1. Updates on searches
2. Graduate Reforms - preliminary vote
3. Spring quarter in person plans

A preliminary vote on graduate reforms was discussed. The question discussed was:

“Do you support allowing the graduate reforms committee to work with the graduate school to develop a proposal for a revised PhD program (in conjunction with MAIS) with the understanding that the faculty will have a final vote in the spring quarter on whether to formally reinstate the revised PhD?).” In response to a question, it was clarified that this vote did not commit faculty to agreeing to reinstate the program. That vote will be held later in Spring quarter 2022. It was also explained that this vote was to allow the committee to develop a proposal that linked the PhD reforms with MAIS changes. Faculty agreed to move forward with a vote.

The Director provided information and context to the University of Washington returning \$6 million gift from a donor, and updates faculty on the impact on Israel studies and its faculty. Professors Devin Naar and Liora Halperin provided their perspectives on their experiences and Professor Halperin provided additional information on the return of the gift.

Several faculty members shared their concerns with the precedent of the University unilaterally deciding to return a donor's gift without notifying the school first. Concerns were raised about JSIS' lack of autonomy within CAS. It was noted that the College of Arts and Sciences and Dean

Harris are committed to funding Professor Halperin's salary, and her faculty position was never in danger.

Faculty noted that many of them had to navigate complexities with donors and several faculty members indicated that they wanted more discussion of these issues, including with Dean Harris. Director Fernandes indicated that the autumn retreat will include a significant conversation about donors and JSIS governance. This was based on the discussion and a recommendation from the faculty council.

Leela summarized next steps as: (1) waiting to learn about final decisions on funding for the Israel Studies program (2) Request Diane Harris to attend a future faculty and (3) focus the retreat on donor relations

Voting Results:

Do you support allowing the graduate reforms committee to work with the graduate school to develop a proposal for a revised PhD program (in conjunction with MAIS) with the understanding that the faculty will have a final vote in the spring quarter on whether to formally reinstate the revised PhD?

Vote	Tally
NO	1
YES	30
ABSTAIN	3